Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 T-03 OMB-01 ACDA-19 SS-14 NSC-10 H-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12

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R 120854 Z MAR 73 FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6723 INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652; N/ A TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: 9 TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OPENS

BEGIN SUMMARY: NINTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OPENED MAR 12 WITH ELECTION OF OFFICERS. CEREMONIAL OPENING SESSION ALSO FEATURED SPEECH BY PRESIDENT PARK. SESSION WILL LAST SIX DAYS, REMAINDER OF WHICH WILL BE DEVOTED MAINLY PRESIDENT TOLD ASSEMBLY ROK SHOULD DISCARD MYTH OF DEMOCRACY BUILT TO HOUSEKEEPING CHORES. BY OTHERS IN FAVOR OF KOREAN-STYLE DEMOCRACY. END SUMMARY

1. NINTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OPENED FOR SIX- DAY EXTRAORDINARY SESSION MAR 12. AT MORNING ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING, CHONG IL- KWON OF DRP WAS ELECTED SPEAKER AND KIM CHIN- MAN OF REVITALIZATION GROUP WAS GHOSEN AS ONE VICE SPEAKER.

OTHER VICE SPEAKERSHIP WILL GO TO NEW DEMOCRATIC ARTY (NDP), WHICH WAS UNABLE TO AGREE ON A CANDIDATE, DESPITE EXPECTATION THAT CHONG IL- HYONG WOULD GET THE NOD.

IN ABSENCE OF SINGLE NDP CHOICE ASSEMBLY POSTPONED ELECTION OF SECOND VICE SPEAKER, AND MATTER IS NOT EXPECTED TO BE TAKEN UP DURING THIS SESSION.

2. FORMAL OPENING CEREMONY TOOK PLACE AFTERNOON OF MAR 12, UNCLASSIFIED

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AND FEATURED BRIEF ADDRESS TO ASSEMBLY BY PRESIDENT PARK
ON SUBJECT OF KOREAN- STYLE DEMOCRACY. PRESIDENT WARNED ASSEMBLY
THAT TASKS FACING NATION WERE "WEIGHTIER AND MORE BURDENSOME"
THAN EVER AND THAT "VIOLENT WAVES OF INTERNATIONAL POWER
POLITICS" REQUIRE ROK TO PROTECT ITS INTERESTS.
HE SAID IT WAS HIGH TIME FOR ROK TO DISCARD "THE MYTH OF
DEMOCRACY BUILT BY OTHERS" AND CALLED FOR A KOREAN- STYLE
DEMOCRACY BASED ON NATIONAL STRENGTH AND "PRODUCTIVE POLITICS,"
FREE FROM WASTE, FACTIONALISM, INEFFICIENCY AND "MEANIGNLESS
FORMALITY."

3. REMAINDER OF ASSEMBLY SESSION WILL BE DEVOTED MAINLY TO HOUSEKEEPING CHORES. STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN WILL BE CHOSEN MARCH 16. ACCORDING TO PRESS DRP WILL HOLD NINE CHAIRMANSHIPS AND REVITALIZATION GROUP 4, INCLUDING FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE. ASSEMBLY IS ALSO EXPECTED TO CONFIRM APPOINTMENT OF KIM CHONG- PIL AS PRIME MINISTER AND TO NOMINATE THREE MEMBERS EACH TO THE CENTRAL ELECTION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE NEW CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE. UNDERHILL

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

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